

# CONGRESS AHEAD OF THE WAR ON AUSTRIA

## FOE PREPARING FOR NEW EFFORT TO SMASH BYNG

Lull in Cambrai Slaughter  
Indicates Another Bour-  
low Wood Assault.

By FRANK W. GETTY.  
Special Cable to The Washington Herald.  
London, Dec. 4.—Germany's counter-offensive west of Cambrai is at a standstill, following one of the bitterest struggles of the war.  
Rupprecht's troops have been moved down in such alarming numbers by the deadly British fire that a lull in the fighting was to be expected today. The achievement of the British arms goes beyond the mere repulse of the strongest German west front attack of many months. It is reflected more clearly in the terrible losses inflicted on the onrushing enemy, who defied all rules of warfare in a desperate attack to wrest from the British the fruits of Byng's victory.

### British Casualty List Shows Marked Decrease

London, Dec. 4.—The British casualty list for the week ending today shows a decrease of nearly 2,000 over the previous week, despite the severe fighting which has been taking place in the vicinity of Cambrai.  
The total casualties, as reported, are 28,522, as compared with 30,314 in the previous week. A total of 22,527 a fortnight ago.  
The only explanation of the marked decrease in casualties is that possibly full reports of casualties have been slow in coming in. The list for the week ending today is divided as follows:  
Killed or died of wounds, officers, 1,153; men, 1,153. Wounded or missing, officers, 494; men, 22,066.

### Trotsky Still Wants Peace With Germans

The Question of Indemnities Causes Hitch on Russian Revolutionists' Plan.  
London, Dec. 4.—Few details came through from Petrograd or Berlin today regarding the terms of the Russian-German armistice. An Amsterdam dispatch said it is to last forty-eight hours. Interest in military and political circles here now centers mainly on what Germany's allies will do.  
The British left flank remains intact, according to all reports. The German army close to the point of exhaustion is known to be rushing up fresh divisions in one last attempt to break through. These new troops will relieve a German army close to the point of exhaustion from the unrelenting British fire.  
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### Both Nations Showed Hostility to America Before the War.

Systematic hostile and surreptitious neutral acts on the part of Austria-Hungary have driven this country to the exact position she was in with regard to Germany before the declaration of war on April 6, 1917. She pursued ruthless submarine warfare, although on much smaller scale than Germany. She carried on a propaganda of disloyalty to this country, just like Germany. She used her diplomatic agents here to foment discord, incite anarchy and destruction throughout this country, just like Germany.

### 25 AND 15 PER CENT ADVANCES NOW ASKED

Congress Expected to Recognize Justice of Plea for Underpaid Workers.  
Government employees will start a nation-wide campaign December 15 to convince members of Congress by the force of arguments presented by constituents that increased compensation is necessary for all Federal workers up to and including the \$2,500 grade.  
This fact followed last night, following the announcement in The Washington Herald that the District Commissioners were the only departmental heads whose estimates contemplated the continuation of the 5 and 10 per cent graded increases which the employees, up to and including the \$1,800 grade, will enjoy until next July.

### Patriotic Punches in Wilson's Address

I also see men here and there fling themselves in impotent disloyalty against the calm, indomitable power of the nation. They do not touch the heart of anything. They may safely be left to strut their uneasy hour and be forgotten.  
When the German people have spokesmen whose word we can believe and when those spokesmen are ready in the name of their people to accept the common judgment of the nations as to what shall henceforth be the bases of law and of covenant for the life of the world, we shall be willing and glad to pay the full price for peace, and pay it ungrudgingly.  
Our present and immediate task is to win the war, and nothing shall turn us aside from it until it is accomplished. Those who desire to bring peace about before that purpose is achieved I counsel to carry their advice elsewhere. We will not entertain it.

### Forceful, Vigorous Message Frequently Interrupted by Hearty Applause.

When I said in January that the nations of the world were entitled not only to free pathways upon the sea but also to assured and unmolested access to those pathways I was thinking, and I am thinking now, of Austria herself, among the rest, as well as of Serbia and of Poland.  
One very embarrassing obstacle that stands in our way is that we are at war with Germany but not with her allies. I therefore very earnestly recommend that the Congress immediately declare the United States in a state of war with Austria-Hungary.  
We must meet its force with our own and regard the Central Powers as but one.  
The same logic would lead also to a declaration of war against Turkey and Bulgaria. They also are the tools of Germany.

### TALLY OF HUN ALLY'S OFFENSES RECOUNTED

Senator La Follette and Representative Moore Remain Seated.  
In a forceful and vigorous message to Congress, that was punctuated frequently by hearty outbursts of patriotic applause, President Wilson recommended yesterday an immediate declaration of war against Austria-Hungary.  
Both the warmth of his reception by the joint session and the demonstration from the galleries at his appearance attested that the Chief Executive will have the whole-hearted support of the legislative branch, and hardly had he left the Capitol after branding Austria as a vassal of Germany than the machinery was set in motion for what is certain to be a declaration of war within a fortnight in conformity with his wishes.

### Message a Masterpiece.

Among some members of the Senate and the House belief was expressed that the President did not go "the full distance" and declare war against Turkey and Bulgaria, as well as the declaration of war against Austria-Hungary. But the preponderance of opinion was that for characteristic fairness, patience and furtherance of the cause of peace in the war, the document will rank as a Wilson masterpiece.  
Bulgaria and Turkey were classed as tools of Germany.  
But, he continued, "they are now tools and do not yet stand in the direct path of our necessary action."  
Ambassadors, members of the Supreme Court, members of the Cabinet and the crowded rows of citizens expressed hearty approval by applause.

### La Follette Not Moved.

Throughout the reading of the message Senator La Follette sat stolidly in his seat in front of the minority desk and in the center of the chamber, his hands clasped in his lap. He made no remark, but the President's ringing remarks of the President brought the majority of the members to their feet, and a demonstration, he, with Representative J. Hamilton Moore and other strong partisans, remained in their seats and gave no visible expression of their sentiments.  
Probably more eyes were focussed on the Chief Executive himself, when the latter was pouring out his displeasure and will, than on the pacifists and the cautious critics of the administration war policy.  
They may safely be left to strut their uneasy hour and be forgotten," he said, as the galleries thundered applause.

### FOR SWEETENING ACTION.

Many Senators are in favor of a sweeping declaration against all of Germany's allies. For instance, President Wilson had no sooner finished his address than Senator Key Pittman, of Nevada, acting for Senator William H. King, of Utah, introduced a joint resolution asking that Congress declare the existence of a state of war with Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria.  
Senator King is strongly pro-American and anti-German in every fiber. He was active in exposing the Bernstein \$30,000 slush fund in Congress and every action he took was aimed at the detection of everything German. There are many others like him.  
President Wilson's message is regarded as a diplomatic and official masterpiece. It comes at a psychological moment, it comes at a time when Russia is torn to pieces; when Italy is pressed to keep the German hordes from overrunning her great industrial territory; and when the Marquis of Lansdowne was crying that it was time to make peace along the lines that President Wilson had outlined.  
It is a war message and declares

### Full Text of President Wilson's Message on Page 4.

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